

# IN HONOR OF 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES ARMY WAR COLLEGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th anniversary of the United States Army War College located in Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional District, which I am privileged to serve. President Theodore Roosevelt's Secretary of War, Elihu Root, founded the War College on November 27, 1901. Secretary Root wished to establish a place where senior leaders of our Armed Forces would study and strategize problems of national defense, military science, and responsible command.

Among the many graduates of this pristine institute are former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1927; General Omar N. Bradley, 1934; General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, 1973; and General Richard Myers, 1981, our current chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In July of 1951, the Army War College relocated to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where it has continued to serve our Nation, our allies, and the military in the capacity envisioned by Secretary Root. Under the exceptional command of Major General Robert Ivany, the Army War College strives to face the defense challenges of today while adhering to its long time motto, "Not to promote war but to preserve peace."

Mr. Speaker, it is a true pleasure and privilege to recognize and commend the United States War College on its 100th anniversary.

## MORE THAN A WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this evening, as our Marines are on the ground in Afghanistan, I would like to posit that the United States is engaged in more than a war. Indeed, we are engaged in the middle of a revolution.

Today, Thomas Friedman, New York Times News Service, wrote an editorial entitled "Shedding the Veil of bin Laden," which I will submit for the RECORD, and I will only read a small part of it. Mr. Friedman is traveling in that part of the world, in the United Arab Emirates, and he says: "Over coffee the other day here in the gulf, an Arab friend confided to me something that was deeply troubling to him. He said, My 11-year-old son thinks bin Laden is a good man. For Americans, Osama bin Laden is a mass murderer. But for many young Arabs, bin Laden, even in defeat, is still Robin Hood. What attracts them to him is his sheer defiance of everything young Arabs and

Muslims detest," Friedman goes on, "their hypocritical rulers, Israel, U.S. dominance, and their own backwardness."

He then goes on to quote Steven Cohen, the Middle East analyst, who says, "We in America can't just go on looking at the Arab world as a giant gas station, indifferent to what happens inside. Because the gas is now leaking and all around people are throwing matches. Every day," he says, "I see signs that this war of ideas is possible."

And, indeed, we are involved in a war of ideas. I would like to commend again the book "Sacred Rage" by Robin Wright, as a very important contribution to our own understanding of the revolution in which we are engaged. In 1986, when this book was first published, and is now being updated, the author, Robin Wright, quotes Sajib Salom, the former Lebanese Prime Minister, who said, "The growth of Islamic fundamentalism is an earthquake."

She recounts from her own personal experience living in the Middle East the turning point of this revolution, centering it in Iran. Of course, the government that the United States of America had supported collapsed in Iran in 1979, the Shah of Iran deposed, something that the United States had not anticipated. And, in fact, his government at that time, serving as policeman for the entire gulf region. Well, shortly thereafter, in March of 1982, there was a huge conference in Tehran, where some 380 men with various religious and revolutionary credentials met at the former Hilton conference ballroom. Their goal was to help to create the ideal Islamic government.

As the government of Iran switched from a monarchy to a theocracy, they had many declarations that came out of that seminar, and she recounts this going back to the mid 1980s. The conclusions of the seminar in some ways were vaguely worded and riddled with rhetoric, but revolutions are that way, and Islamic militants, mainly Shi'a but including some Sunnis, and more recently even more of them, would launch a large-scale offensive to cleanse the Islamic world of the Satanic Western and Eastern influences that they viewed as hindering their progress, and they agreed to the following back in the early 1980s:

First, that religion should not be separated from politics; secondly, that the only way to achieve true independence, true independence, was to return to Islamic roots; third, there should be no reliance on superpowers or other outsiders, and the region should get rid of them; and, fourth, they recommended that the Shi'a should be more active in getting rid of foreign powers.

Dr. Marvin Zonis, at that time the director of the Middle East Institute at

the University of Chicago, had a stunning comment about the Psychological Roots of Shiite Muslim Terrorism in a Washington seminar, in which he stated this message from Iran: No matter how bizarre or trivial it may sound on first, second, fourth or 39th hearing, is, in my opinion, the single most impressive political ideology which has been proposed in the 20th century since the Bolshevik Revolution. If we accepted Bolshevism as a remnant of the 19th century, then, he argues, that we have had only one good one in the 20th century, and I would put the word good in quotes, and it is this one: Islamic fundamentalism. This powerful message will be with us for a very long time, no matter what happens to Ayatollah Khomeini.

As I end this evening, I would just commend this book "Sacred Rage," and say I will continue with briefings on this as the days proceed, and I submit herewith, Mr. Speaker, the newspaper article I referred to above:

[From the Toledo (OH) Blade, Nov. 26, 2001]

### SHEDDING THE VEIL OF BIN LADEN

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates.—Over coffee the other day here in the gulf, an Arab friend—a sweet, thoughtful, liberal person—confided to me something that was deeply troubling him: "My 11-year old son thinks bin Laden is a good man."

For Americans, Osama bin Laden is a mass murderer. But for many young Arabs, bin Laden even in defeat, is still Robin Hood. What attracts them to him is not his vision of the ideal Muslim society, which few would want to live in. No, what attracts them to him is his sheer defiance of everything young Arabs and Muslims detest—their hypocritical rulers, Israel, U.S. dominance, and their own economic backwardness. He is still the finger in the eye of the world that so many frustrated, powerless people out here would love to poke.

The reason it is important to eliminate bin Laden—besides justice—is the same reason it was critical to eliminate the Taliban: As long as we're chasing him around, there will never be an honest debate among Muslims and Arabs about the future of their societies.

Think of all the nonsense written in the press—particularly the European and Arab media—about the concern for "civilian casualties," in Afghanistan. It turns out many of those Afghan "civilians" were praying for another dose of B-52s to liberate them from the Taliban, casualties or not. Now that the Taliban are gone, Afghans can freely fight out, among themselves, the war of ideas for what sort of society they want.

My hope is that once bin Laden is eliminated, Arabs and Muslims will want to do the same. That is, instead of expressing rage with their repressive, corrupt rulers, or with U.S. policy, by rooting for bin Laden, they will start to raise their own voices. It's only when the Arab-Muslim world sheds the veil of bin Laden, as Afghans shed the Taliban, and faces the fact that Sept. 11 was primarily about anger and problems with their societies, not ours, will we eradicate not just the hardware of terrorism, but its software.

"We in the West can't have that debate for them, but we can help create the conditions for it to happen," remarked the Middle East analyst Stephen P. Cohen. "America's role is